

**FEMA PUBLIC NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF A EMERGENCY HOUSING SITE NEAR PINE
GROVE, WETZEL COUNTY**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a proposed manufactured housing (mobile homes or travel trailer) site. The site would house disaster victims displaced by major home damage caused by floods and mudslides that occurred on September 16 and 17, 2004. A Presidential Disaster Declaration, FEMA-1558-DR-WV, was signed on September 20, 2004, for this event.

The proposed action includes developing an approximately 1.15-acre site (termed "Martin site") for manufactured housing units to be located adjacent to State Route 20, approximately 0.9 miles west of the intersection of State Route 20 and County Route 17 in Pine Grove, Wetzel County, West Virginia. Activities would include, where necessary, site clearing, grading, road construction, the placement of utilities (electricity, telephones, water, and sewer), and the transport and hook-up of manufactured homes to the site. Per the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4371 *et seq.*), and associated environmental statutes, a Draft EA was written to evaluate the Proposed Action's potential impacts on the human and natural environment. The Draft EA considers alternatives, the existing environment, the Proposed Action consequences, and ways to reduce adverse affects.

Due to the emergency nature of this action, the public comment period will be brief – November 26, 27, and 29, 2004. Written comments on the Draft EA can be faxed to FEMA's Disaster Recovery Center in Wheeling at (304) 231-3516; and verbal comments will be accepted at (304) 231-3573 and TTY for hearing or speech-impaired at 800-462-7585; between 8:00 A.M. and 5:00 P.M. The draft EA can be viewed and downloaded from FEMA's website: <http://www.fema.gov/ehp/docs.shtm> and is also available for public review at the New Martinsville Public Library, 160 Washington Street, New Martinsville, WV 26155. The library hours are Monday, from 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM. On Friday and Saturday the library is open from 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. If no substantive comments are received, the Draft EA will become final and this initial Public Notice will also serve as the final Public Notice.

All other questions regarding disaster assistance or the availability of emergency housing should be directed to FEMA's Teleregistration line at 800-621-3362.